

**STATE OF MAINE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DOCKET NO. 2004-246**

**US CELLULAR  
RE: APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS AN  
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER  
UNDER 47 U.S.C § 214(e)(2)**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF JOHN HOUGHTON**

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Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.

A1. My name is John Houghton. I am currently serving my fifth year as a Town Councilor for the Town of Fort Fairfield, Maine. I am also a semi-retired seed potato farmer. My address is 37 Maple Grove Road, Fort Fairfield, Maine 04742.

Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Fort Fairfield?

A2. Yes. I am aware of the fact that US Cellular provides cellular service in many parts of Maine and is intending to improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine including Fort Fairfield. As I understand it, US Cellular has applied for eligible telecommunications status with the Maine Public Utilities Commission. If the Commission approves US Cellular's application for this status, it will gain access to federal funds that will enable the company to make improvements in Fort Fairfield to improve service in our town.

Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in Fort Fairfield?

A3. Yes. It is poor. It is rare that we are able to get cell service in downtown. Elsewhere, the service is sporadic. You might get a call, but if you move at all, you could lose it.

Q4. How will the proposed improvements affect your community?

A4. The improvement of cellular service in Fort Fairfield is entirely in the best interests of the town of Fort Fairfield. Cellular service would help our existing businesses to provide better service and help attract new business to our community. There are many instances when cellular service would be of great benefit to the day-to-day workings of our community. For example, if we had cell service here, fuel delivery trucks would be able to be in contact with their offices and would be able to get calls for delivery of home heating fuel. This is farming country, and today everyone carries a cellular phone on the tractor. It would be a great help if the service was better and we could communicate from the fields. But most importantly, the availability of cellular service would keep our citizens safer by allowing police, fire and safety personnel to communicate better with hospitals, dispatch, and accident victims.

The Town Council of the Town of Fort Fairfield has endorsed this position. At our meeting on July 25, 2004, the Council adopted a Resolution Supporting US Cellular's Application for Universal Service Funding. In that meeting we discussed US Cellular's proposed improvement of cellular service in the Fort Fairfield area and how it would impact our community. I have attached a copy of this Resolution as Exhibit Houghton-1 to this Testimony. As a resident and Town Councilor for the Town of Fort Fairfield, I endorse US Cellular's application for Universal Service Funding and encourage the Public Utilities Commission to approve its application.

Q5. Does this complete your testimony?

A5. Yes.

EXHIBIT HOUGHTON-1

TOWN OF FORT FAIRFIELD

Resolution Supporting US Cellular's Application for Universal Service Funding.

WHEREAS, US Cellular has submitted an application to the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Maine (PUC) seeking to qualify for funding from the Federal Universal Services Fund, and

WHEREAS, US Cellular will represent to the PUC that, should it obtain PUC certification and become eligible for such funding, it will extend its cellular network to provide US Cellular service in the Town of Fort Fairfield, and

WHEREAS, the extension of US Cellular service to Fort Fairfield is a matter affecting the health, safety and well-being of the citizens of Fort Fairfield,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Council of the Town of Fort Fairfield hereby adopts the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Fort Fairfield finds and declares that the extension of US Cellular service in the Town of Fort Fairfield would be in the public interest of the citizens of the Town. The availability of US Cellular service would:

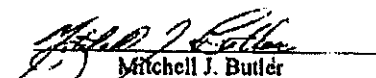
- (1) further the efficient delivery of basic services in the Town, including life saving fire, police and emergency medical service;
- (2) provide competition for the existing cellular and local (wire line) service providers in the Town;
- (3) contribute to the basic telecommunications infrastructure in the Town of Fort Fairfield and thereby enhance the Town's ability to retain its existing businesses and attract new businesses; and
- (4) improve mobile services in the Town, to the benefit of both Townspeople and through travelers.

John Houghton is hereby authorized to deliver this resolution to the Public Utilities Commission in support of US Cellular's application and to testify on behalf of the Town at any proceeding held by the Commission to consider US Cellular's application.

FORT FAIRFIELD TOWN COUNCILORS

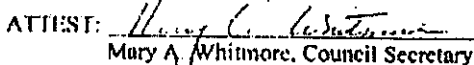
  
John E. Houghton, Chairman

  
Ruel W. Flannery

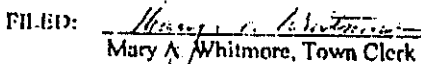
  
Mitchell J. Butler

  
David H. McCrea

  
Stey B. Rogeski

ATTEST:   
Mary A. Whitmore, Council Secretary

DATE: 07/24/2004

FILED:   
Mary A. Whitmore, Town Clerk

DATE: 07/24/2004

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF SUSIE JAMES**

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Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.

A1. My name is Susie James. My husband, George James, and I own and run Lucerne Farms. We have 3500 acres of farms and facilities in four Aroostook County communities: Presque Isle, Fort Fairfield, Easton and Caribou. Our business, which is headquartered in Fort Fairfield, employs twenty Maine people growing, bagging, and marketing seven varieties of horse feed through a distribution network that includes 26 states and Mexico. One of the horses running in the Kentucky Derby this year was "powered" with our feed. My business address is P.O. Box 510, Fort Fairfield, Maine 04742. We live in Presque Isle.

Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Fort Fairfield?

A2. Yes. I know that US Cellular provides cellular service in many parts of Maine, and I understand that they are intending to improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine including Fort Fairfield. As I understand it, US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify for funding from a federal fund. If the Maine Public

Utilities Commission approves US Cellular's application for this funding, it will be able to make the necessary improvements to expand service into Fort Fairfield.

Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in Fort Fairfield?

A3. Yes. We have five cellular phones for farm use, but often have trouble with service because there are dead spots in the cellular service all over Fort Fairfield (and many dead spots all over Aroostook County too, for that matter). In fact, there is a dead spot between our office in Fort Fairfield and our home in Presque Isle, which means I can not complete any mobile calls going to or from work.

Our son is the general manager of Lucerne Farms, and he went to Toronto on business a few weeks ago. Our farm employees had no trouble reaching him on his cell phone in Toronto when they have questions for him. Because the cellular service in Fort Fairfield is so bad, our employees had a much easier time getting through to him on his cell phone in Toronto than if he were local.

We have experimented with every brand of cell phone - Nokia, Motorola, all of them - trying to improve the service we get but nothing does any good. I actually use an old bag phone and a long antenna. It still doesn't work very well and it's very inconvenient.

Q4. How will the proposed improvements affect your community?

A4. From a farming standpoint, having more reliable cellular service would improve business and make farming more safe and convenient. Again, we have farming operations in four towns here in Aroostook County and having the ability, through high quality mobile service, to maintain continuous communications between the office and the people working in our satellite locations would greatly enhance the efficiency and convenience of our operations. Our

farm workers often haul farm products long distances, for example, from one of the farms to the plant where we make the horse feed. Many of these workers carry cellular phones on them while they work in the fields or when they drive our trucks. If the cellular service were reliable, they could depend on use of their phones in the event of an emergency, if they had questions, or if they needed something. It could be as simple as ordering a part in Caribou, for example.

Cellular phones could save them time. Also, cellular phones are handy for when farm workers are driving the big farm trucks around town, and in the fields. It is important that these workers be able to use their cell phones from the farm trucks because they need to let people back on the farm know their whereabouts, or, if they need help, they need to be able to call from the trucks.

Q5. Does this complete your testimony?

A5. Yes.

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF SENATOR RICHARD  
KNEELAND**

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**INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW**

Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.

A1. My name is Richard Kneeland. I have recently completed my second term as a member of the Maine Senate. Prior to my election as a Senator, I served four terms as a member of the Maine House of Representatives. I represent District 2 which includes the town of Fort Fairfield. My home address is 153 W Ridge Rd Easton, Maine 04740. I am a retired farmer and live in Fort Fairfield during the summer months.

Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to improve cellular service in the town of Fort Fairfield?

A2. Yes. I am aware that US Cellular provides cellular service in portions of my Senate District. I am also aware that US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify for funding from the federal Universal Service Fund. I understand that if it receives this funding, US Cellular plans to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to provide cellular service in Fort Fairfield.

Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the town of Fort Fairfield?

A3. Yes. There is no service at all in Fort Fairfield.

Q4. How will the proposed improvements affect your community?

A4. In my capacity as Senator representing the town of Fort Fairfield, I know that the proposed improvements to local cellular service will be in the best interest of the community for several reasons. First, the availability of cellular service will greatly enhance the delivery of health and safety services. Better communication always equals better services and reliable cellular service would reduce emergency response times. Additionally, cellular service would positively impact the existing business community while encouraging new business development. More and more, the lack of cellular service in a community makes it difficult to attract and retain businesses. Small businesses in rural towns like Fort Fairfield have difficulty competing when they don't have the necessary communications infrastructure. Furthermore, the expansion of cellular service into the town of Fort Fairfield would foster competition among the existing cellular and landline providers. This can only benefit consumers.

The expansion of cellular service into the town of Fort Fairfield is in the public interest and for this reason I support US Cellular's application to receive the funding necessary to make these improvements.

Q5. Does this complete your testimony?

A5. Yes.



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**DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF REPRESENTATIVE  
JACQUELINE LUNDEEN**

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**Q1.** Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.

**A1.** My name is Jacqueline Lundeen. I recently completed my second term as a member of the Maine House of Representatives. I represent District 144 which includes the town of Fort Fairfield. My business address is P.O. Box 471, Mars Hills, Maine 04758. I am a retired farmer and have lived in Mars Hill all of my life.

**Q2.** Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to improve cellular service in the town of Fort Fairfield?

**A2.** Yes. I am aware that US Cellular provides cellular service in portions of my House District. I am also aware that US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify for funding from the federal Universal Service Fund. I understand that if it receives this funding, US Cellular plans to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to provide cellular service in Fort Fairfield.

**Q3.** Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the town of Fort Fairfield?

**A3.** Yes. There is no service at all in most of Fort Fairfield. Additionally, my cellular phone service roams within a few miles of the Canadian border.

Q4. How will the proposed improvements affect your community?

A4. The proposed improvements to local cellular service will be in the best interest of the community for several reasons. First, the availability of cellular service will greatly enhance the delivery of health and safety services. For example, one morning, I was driving to Augusta. The road was very icy and several cars had gone off of the road. I used my cell phone to call the State Police for emergency assistance. If hazardous road conditions in Fort Fairfield posed a similar situation, emergency assistance would have been seriously delayed, as cellular service would not have been available. Cellular service also provides a means for parents to communicate with their children when they are not at home, which is often desirable for safety reasons, as well as for convenience purposes. My sons are sixth generation farmers in Mars Hill, Maine. They all have cell phones strapped to their sides. Farmers often work with potentially dangerous machinery in remote field areas. Cellular service allows farmers to quickly seek emergency assistance in the event of an accident. Additionally, the use of cellular phones has a significant economic benefit in the farming business. Often times, if they know I am traveling in Presque Isle, they will call my cell phone and ask that I pick up supplies for the farm, conveniently saving time and money.

Having the convenience of cellular service in Fort Fairfield would provide a similar positive impact, helping the existing business community, as well as encouraging new business development. Furthermore, the expansion of cellular service into the town of Fort Fairfield would foster competition among the existing cellular and landline providers. I use Unicef and have not been completely satisfied with the service that I have received. Creating competition would increase the quality of cellular service and benefit consumers.

I am really in favor of cellular phones. The expansion of cellular service into the town of Fort Fairfield is in the public interest and for this reason I support US Cellular's application to receive the funding necessary to make these improvements.

Q5. Does this complete your testimony?

A5. Yes.

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF SHERIFF JAMES P.  
MADORE**

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Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.

A1. My name is James P. Madore. I have been the Sheriff of Aroostook County for the last three years. My business address is 26 Court Street, Suite #101, Houlton, Maine 04730.

Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Fort Fairfield?

A2. Yes. I am aware of the fact that US Cellular provides cellular service in many parts of Maine. I understand that US Cellular is applying to the Maine Public Utilities Commission for eligibility to receive federal funds. If US Cellular can gain access to these funds, it will be able to provide cellular service in Fort Fairfield.

Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Fort Fairfield area?

A3. Yes. All of our patrol deputies and prisoner transport vehicles are equipped with cellular phones for use throughout the county, including Fort Fairfield. Because of the lack of a cellular tower in Fort Fairfield, we have problems with cellular service in and around the Fort Fairfield area.

A4. In today's age we rely heavily on cell phones. Having cell service in Fort Fairfield would really help us out. When a complaint is put through to the main office in Houlton, the dispatcher then uses the radio to call the responding deputies. The radios work well for the most part, but do not allow the deputies to call the complainant directly before arriving at the scene. The deputies must rely solely on the information they receive through the dispatcher in Houlton who spoke with the complainant. This third-party relay of information leaves room for error; vital information could be lost through this process. Additionally, certain information, due to confidentiality requirements, cannot be transmitted across the radio, so sometimes information is not passed on at all. Therefore, the deputies are placed in greater danger because they may not know all of the details regarding the call. Having cellular phone service throughout Fort Fairfield would alleviate this problem, allowing for one-on-one communication between the complainant and the responding deputy.

We really need cellular service in the Fort Fairfield area and I support US Cellular's efforts to become eligible to receive the funding necessary to bring service to Fort Fairfield.

Q5. Does this complete your testimony?

A5. Yes.

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF JAMES MCKENNEY**

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Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.

A1. My name is James McKenney. I am the Senior Manager of Crown Ambulance Services, which serves parts of Aroostook County, including Fort Fairfield. Crown Ambulance Services also has bases in Fort Fairfield, Maine and Limestone, Maine. My business address is 140 Academy Street, P.O. Box 151, Presque Isle, Maine. I live in Presque Isle, Maine.

Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Fort Fairfield?

A2. Yes. I know that US Cellular provides cellular service in many parts of Maine and I understand that they are intending to improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine including Fort Fairfield. As I understand it, US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify for funding from a federal fund. If the Maine Public Utilities Commission approves US Cellular's application for this funding, it will be able to make the necessary improvements to expand service into Fort Fairfield.

Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Fort Fairfield area?

A3. Yes. There are problems even getting signals in Fort Fairfield. If you do get a signal, it is usually through roaming off of a Canadian tower, resulting in long-distance charges.

Q4. How will the proposed improvements affect your community?

A4. The biggest impact improved cellular service would have on our community are the safety benefits. Having cellular service in the Fort Fairfield area would greatly improve our ability to respond to emergencies. We currently communicate through radios, but those may also be unreliable, depending on where you are. Crown Ambulance Services has nine ambulances, six of which are currently equipped with cellular phones. We have four ambulance bases, in Fort Fairfield, Presque Isle, Mars Hill, and Limestone. Personnel from all four bases need to be able to communicate with each other, to convey important information, to determine ambulance locations, and to assist in making quick decisions regarding first response. The ability to rely on in-ambulance cellular service throughout our ambulance service region would permit such communication. However, because of the dead spots in Fort Fairfield and elsewhere, we cannot always rely on cellular phone communication during critical times.

Additionally, we use cellular phones to communicate with hospitals and doctors regarding patients, enabling us to get orders from a physician while commuting a patient to the hospital, as well as to relay information to the hospital so that the hospital can better prepare for the patient's arrival. The inability to talk to doctors and other hospital personnel regarding incoming patients could potentially put those patients in jeopardy, given a situation where immediate contact with a hospital were critical but no cellular service were available.

I also carry a personal cell phone. This allows co-workers to contact me, for example, if I were needed to come in to work early for an emergency. However, if I were in Fort Fairfield, I would not be able to get that call, or, at best, I would incur roaming charges. It would be nice to have the same conveniences and local charges that are available in less rural areas.

Q5. Does this complete your testimony?

A5. Yes.

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF SHAWN  
MURCHISON**

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Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.

A1. My name is Shawn Murchison. I am the Coordinator of Economic Development for the Town of Fort Fairfield. I am also the Executive Director for the Fort Fairfield Chamber of Commerce. My business address is 232 Main Street, Suite 4, P.O. Box 350, Fort Fairfield, Maine 04742.

Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Fort Fairfield?

A2. Yes. I know that US Cellular provides cellular service in many parts of Maine and I understand that they are intending to improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine including Fort Fairfield. As I understand it, US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify for funding from a federal fund. If the Maine Public Utilities Commission approves US Cellular's application for this funding, it will be able to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to expand service into Fort Fairfield.

Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Fort Fairfield area?



A3. Yes. I am a U.S. Cellular customer. We have no cell service at all in the downtown of Fort Fairfield, so as soon as you get close to the populated area of town, you lose signal. Also, as you get closer to the Canadian border, cellular service switches to roaming service, which carries additional fees.

Q4. How will the proposed improvements affect your community?

A4. The provision of cellular service in Fort Fairfield is entirely in the best interests of our community. In my dual capacities as Coordinator of Economic Development for the Town of Fort Fairfield and Executive Director for the Fort Fairfield Chamber of Commerce, I deal with businesses and sales people on a regular basis. I try to get businesses into the Town of Fort Fairfield for economic development purposes. When we do get visiting sales people and businesspeople in town, they all carry cell phones, and are frustrated by the lack of cellular service. In fact, I hear many complaints about the unavailability of service in Fort Fairfield. People know that when they come into Fort Fairfield they will not have cellular services, and it is frustrating. The economic development of the region depends on having the required infrastructure, such as cellular service, to support a thriving business community. The availability of cellular service would make this a more attractive business destination.

In addition to the economic benefit that cellular service would bring to Fort Fairfield, emergency response teams would greatly benefit from the availability of cellular service. Our Fire Department operates, for the most part, on a volunteer basis. All Fire Department volunteers carry cellular phones so that they may be called in to help in the event of a fire. Additionally, the Fort Fairfield Police Department is a small force, and all police officers carry cellular phones. Emergency personnel rely heavily on the ability to quickly communicate with each other, to efficiently share

information, to call for back up, etc. Cellular phone service would be a vast resource for this purpose.

The expansion of cellular service in Fort Fairfield would be a great municipal improvement, both for safety reasons and for the support of the business community.

Q5. Does this complete your testimony?

A5. Yes.

**STATE OF MAINE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
*UNITED STATES CELLULAR*  
REQUEST FOR ETC DESIGNATION  
DOCKET NO. 2004-246**

**LOCAL WITNESS TESTIMONY**

**Jonesport**

**STATE OF MAINE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF DWIGHT CARVER**

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Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.

A1. My name is Dwight Carver. I am a fisherman out of Beals, Maine. My business address is P.O. Box 131, Beals, Maine 04611. I have been a fisherman in the Jonesport/Beals area for over 30 years, and have lived in the area over 50 years.

Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the Jonesport area?

A2. Yes. US Cellular is a cellular service provider and I understand they are proposing to provide and improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine, including Jonesport. I understand that US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify to receive federal funds that would enable them to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to expand service into Jonesport and other areas in Maine.

Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Jonesport area?

A3. Yes. It is not good. The only way I can get any cellular service at all from my boat is by using an old bag phone with a large marine cellular antenna, which has to be left on board the boat. A small hand held phone would be much better because I could carry it around, but the handheld cell phones are useless out on the water, they get no reception at all out there.

Q4. How will the proposed improvements affect your community?

A4. Industry in Jonesport and Beals is pretty much limited to fishing. Being able to communicate from the water would be a tremendous asset to the fishing business and to the community. A reliable, carry around cellular phone would give me better access to whatever services that I might need. If you are alone on your boat, you could jump right on the cell phone and call Church's True Value, or any of those places, for supplies or other things that fishermen need on the water. For example, I may need to contact a diesel dealer from the water. If I can't get one on VHF radio, I could try the cell phone. I also need to be able to communicate from the water regarding sales of fish and crabs. Reliable cellular service would allow me to get messages through to markets before coming to shore. VHF is not always a successful means of reaching local merchants, especially if they are traveling. If we all had cellular reception, business would be conducted much more efficiently -- on the road, on the water, or wherever.

Not only would cellular communication help for business purposes, but fishing would be a lot safer if the 200-250 boats out on the water could quickly get in touch with each other by cell phone in the event of an emergency. A lot of the fishermen around here know each other, and could share cell phone numbers so that, in an emergency, they could call other boats directly, instead of trying to reach help on VHF radio. The ability to quickly reach other boats that are already in nearby water would be an added convenience and safety measure.

Expanding cellular service into the Jonesport-Beals area would be a tremendous benefit to the community.

Q5. Does this complete your testimony?

A5. Yes.

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF CRAIG CHURCH**

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Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.

A1. My name is Craig Church. I am the owner of Moosabec Marine located on Main Street in Jonesport, Maine. I have operated my business in Jonesport since 1989.

Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Jonesport?

A2. Yes. US Cellular is a cellular service provider and I understand they are proposing to provide and improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine including Jonesport. I understand that US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify to receive federal funds that would enable them to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to expand service into Jonesport and other areas in Maine.

Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Jonesport area?

A3. Yes. I do not own a cell phone at this time because every time you try to use a cell phone in town it is either completely dead or you are able to get only bits and pieces of a call, depending on where you are.

Q4. How will the proposed improvements affect your community?

A4. We get calls very often from folks out on their boats, for various reasons. For example, there are many commercial fishermen in Jonesport, and they often try to contact me for things like parts, or to line up service when they come to shore. I know they try to call because I am usually able to make out the number of the incoming cellular call, but I am only able to get bits and pieces of the call, so the contact is unsuccessful. Most fishing vessels do have VHF radios, but I do not have the time to constantly monitor those signals from my business. If cellular service in the area were reliable, I could hear my cell phone ringing without the constant need to watch it, and my business would be enhanced. The fisherman could rely on cellular phones to contact me for parts or service before they came to shore, saving valuable fishing time.

Cellular service would not only benefit fishing vessels, but a fair share of tourists often try to contact me by cell phone, just to get directions, or wanting somebody to meet them at the dock with supplies, or even for a ride. For example, a lady was out on her sailboat, and needed to send an urgent fax as soon as possible. Luckily, she happened to be in one of the few spots out on the water where she was able to get a signal. We were able to meet her and give her a ride in a motor boat to send the fax. If she had not been able to get through to us on her cell phone for a ride, she would have had a four hour sail, as opposed to a 15 minute motor boat ride, before getting to a fax machine.

Even more important than the time and money-saving benefits are the safety benefits that cellular service would provide. Fishermen and others on the water may try to call when they are having boat trouble and need help. A cellular phone could be a lifesaver if a vessel were dead in the water and the people on board needed to contact help in a hurry.

In sum, from the standpoint of a marine owner, it would be nice to have cellular service in the Jonesport area. If cellular service was expanded into Jonesport and cellular signals were consistent throughout the area, I would certainly become a cellular customer.

Q5. Does this complete your testimony?

A5. Yes.



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**DIRECT TESTIMONY  
OF JOHN CHURCH**

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Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.

A1. My name is John Church. I am the owner of Church's True Value Hardware located on Main Street in Jonesport, Maine. I have operated my business in Jonesport for over twenty years and have lived in Jonesport all of my life.

Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Jonesport?

A2. Yes. US Cellular is a cellular service provider and I understand they are proposing to provide and improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine including Jonesport. I understand that US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify to receive federal funds that would enable them to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to expand service into Jonesport and other areas in Maine.

Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Jonesport area?

A3. Yes. Service is very poor here in town. The nearest tower is 30 miles away. I have a cell phone and can get service on it in some parts of town, but not others. For example, I have no